



## T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Child Development Associate (CDA) Assessment Scholarship



### **What is a CDA Credential?**

The CDA Credential is a nationally recognized credential awarded to individuals who have demonstrated competency through both experience and education in working with young children ages 0-5. The CDA Credential is awarded to infant/toddler childcare teachers, preschool teachers or family childcare providers.

### **Who awards the CDA Credential?**

The Council for Professional Recognition (The Council) administers the CDA credentialing program and awards the CDA Credential.

### **Who administers the CDA Credential Assessment Scholarship Program?**

The CDA Credential Assessment Scholarship is made available through the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina Scholarship Program and is administered by Child Care Services Association.

### **Does the CDA Credential have to be renewed?**

Yes. The CDA Credential is valid for 3 years from the date of award. At the end of that period, a individual may apply for renewal. When renewal is granted, the Credential becomes valid for an additional 5 years.

### **What are the eligibility requirements?**

Candidates for the CDA must meet the following four criteria: be 18 years or older, have a high school diploma or equivalent, have 480 hours of experience working with young children within the past five years and have 120 hours of formal child care education and training within the past five years in the CDA training content areas.

### **Who is eligible for a CDA Credential Assessment Scholarship?**

Individuals earning \$18 or less per hour while working in a licensed childcare center or a registered family childcare home for at least 20 hours per week are encouraged to apply.

### **How do I earn the CDA Credential?**

In order to receive the CDA Credential, an individual must meet the eligibility requirements and complete or facilitate the completion of the following: a professional resource file, parent opinion questionnaires, a formal observation, an oral interview and a written assessment.

### **Can I complete the CDA Credential Assessment application online or do I have to submit a paper application?**

At this time T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® North Carolina is only able to support physical assessment applications. Since we will be submitting the renewal application to the Council on your behalf, we cannot accept copies.

### **Where can I get the CDA Credential Assessment application?**

The CDA assessment application can be found within the CDA Competency Standards Booklet which can be ordered through the Council for Professional Recognition's website at [www.cdacouncil.org](http://www.cdacouncil.org).

### **What will the CDA Credential Assessment Scholarship cover?**

The CDA Assessment Scholarship will pay 85% of the assessment fee.

### **What kind of commitment is required of recipients of the CDA Assessment Scholarship?**

Scholarship recipients are asked to remain with their sponsoring programs or in the field for an additional 3-6 months after the CDA Credential have been received.

### **Will I be compensated for earning the CDA Credential?**

Yes. Child Care Services Association will award a \$200 bonus to individuals who attain the CDA Credential.

### **What kind of commitment is required of the center?**

The center may be required to pay a portion of the assessment fee. Centers allow teachers to be formally observed in the classroom by a representative from the Council.

### **What kind of support does Child Care Services Association provide?**

CCSA provides counseling and administrative support. CCSA reviews assessment application materials and submits them to the Council.